

PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled).

21. (Currently amended) A method for making a seal device from a preformed polymer laminated metallic construction, the method comprising the steps of:

placing a polymer material layer onto a metallic substrate and chemically bonding the polymer material layer thereto to form a polymer laminated metallic construction wherein chemical bonding of the polymer material layer and the metallic substrate is carried out by use of fluoropolymer bonding agent;

shape forming the polymer laminated metallic construction into a desired shape such that both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer are bent together, thereby forming a contoured portion along which both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer extend; and

trimming the shaped formed construction into a desired seal device configuration;

wherein the seal device comprises:

a casing member that is formed from the metallic substrate; and

a sealing element that is formed from the polymer material, and that includes a portion that projects beyond and away from the casing member and that includes a contact surface for sealing placement against an adjacent dynamic sealing surface when placed into service.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21 wherein the polymer laminated metallic construction is in sheet form prior to shape forming.

23. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the polymer material is configured having a high surface area made up of a plurality of topographical features prior to shape forming.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21 wherein the casing member is in the form of a ring having an L-shaped configuration, and said portion of the sealing element extends radially inwardly away from the casing member.

25. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21 wherein the seal device is formed from two polymer laminated metallic constructions, and further comprises the step of joining together two casing members and respective sealing elements.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as recited in claim 25~~ A method for making a seal device from a preformed polymer laminated metallic construction, the method comprising the steps of:

placing a polymer material layer onto a metallic substrate and chemically bonding the polymer material layer thereto to form a polymer laminated metallic construction;
shape forming the polymer laminated metallic construction into a desired shape such that both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer are bent together, thereby forming a contoured portion along which both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer extend; and
trimming the shaped formed construction into a desired seal device configuration;
wherein the seal device comprises:
a casing member that is formed from the metallic substrate; and
a sealing element that is formed from the polymer material, and that includes a portion that projects beyond and away from the casing member and that includes a contact surface for sealing placement against an adjacent dynamic sealing surface when placed into service; and
wherein the seal device is formed from two polymer laminated metallic constructions, and further comprises the step of joining together two casing members and respective sealing elements; and
wherein the step of joining comprises bonding together the two casing members.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the step of joining comprises deforming a portion of at least one of the casing members towards an adjacently positioned portion of the other one of the casing members.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as recited in claim 25~~ A method for making a seal device from a preformed polymer laminated metallic construction, the method comprising the steps of:

placing a polymer material layer onto a metallic substrate and chemically bonding the polymer material layer thereto to form a polymer laminated metallic construction;
shape forming the polymer laminated metallic construction into a desired shape such that both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer are bent together,
thereby forming a contoured portion along which both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer extend; and

trimming the shaped formed construction into a desired seal device configuration;

wherein the seal device comprises:

a casing member that is formed from the metallic substrate; and

a sealing element that is formed from the polymer material, and that includes a portion that projects beyond and away from the casing member and that includes a contact surface for sealing placement against an adjacent dynamic sealing surface when placed into service; and

wherein the seal device is formed from two polymer laminated metallic constructions,

and further comprises the step of joining together two casing members and respective sealing elements; and

wherein during the joining step the two polymer laminated metallic constructions are combined so that the two casing members are placed into contact with one another.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as recited in claim 25~~ A method for making a seal device from a preformed polymer laminated metallic construction, the method comprising the steps of:

placing a polymer material layer onto a metallic substrate and chemically bonding the polymer material layer thereto to form a polymer laminated metallic construction;
shape forming the polymer laminated metallic construction into a desired shape such that both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer are bent together,
thereby forming a contoured portion along which both the metallic substrate and the polymer material layer extend; and

trimming the shaped formed construction into a desired seal device configuration;

wherein the seal device comprises:

a casing member that is formed from the metallic substrate; and

a sealing element that is formed from the polymer material, and that includes a portion that projects beyond and away from the casing member and that includes a contact surface for sealing placement against an adjacent dynamic sealing surface when placed into service; and

wherein the seal device is formed from two polymer laminated metallic constructions,

and further comprises the step of joining together two casing members and respective sealing elements; and

wherein during the joining step the two polymer laminated metallic constructions are combined so that the two sealing elements are placed into contact with one another.

30. (Original) The method as recited in claim 25 wherein during the joining step the two polymer laminated metallic constructions are combined so that the two casing members are separated from one another by one of the sealing elements.

31. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21 wherein during the shape forming step the casing member is deformed along a portion adjacent an inside diameter casing member end to impose a desired urging force onto the sealing element.

32. (Canceled)